

Important: Changes to Employment Insurance (EI) benefits to take effect December 18, 2022

The Federal Government has recently confirmed they will be extending EI sickness benefits from 15 weeks to 26 weeks, effective December 18, 2022.

What this means for your plan:

- **Plan sponsors are under no legal obligation to change their plans.**
- **If your Weekly Indemnity (WI) benefit is registered with the EI Premium Reduction Program (PRP):** The government hasn't yet provided any details about the new qualification criteria for the PRP or the transition period. However, they have committed to introducing a legacy clause to give firms enough time to make the necessary changes to their plans to ensure they remain eligible.
- **If plan members get EI payments and your long-term disability (LTD) benefit has a waiting period of less than 27 weeks,** Plan Administrators will have to remind plan members to:
 - Submit their LTD claim within the timelines outlined in their policy
 - Inform EI of their LTD benefit so they don't get EI and LTD benefits at the same time.

For more information about this change, please refer to the [government's site](#). Should you have additional questions about your current plan design, or whether any modifications should be considered as a result of this change, please contact your Chambers Plan Advisor.